



CFP DEMETER PRESS

*The Mother Wave:
Matricentric Feminism as Theory, Activism, and Practice*

DEMETER Edited by Andrea O'Reilly, Victoria Bailey, and Fiona Joy Green

In *Matricentric Feminism: Theory, Activism, Practice* (2021) Andrea O'Reilly argues that the category of mother is distinct from the category of woman and that many of the problems mothers face—social, economic, political, cultural, psychological, and so forth—are specific to women's role and identity as mothers. Indeed, mothers are oppressed under patriarchy as women *and as mothers*. For women who are mothers, mothering is a significant, if not a defining dimension of their lives, and that, arguably, maternity matters more than gender. Consequently, mothers need a matricentric mode of feminism organized from and for their particular identity and work as mothers. Indeed, a mother-centred feminism is needed because mothers—arguably more so than women in general—remain disempowered despite sixty years/six decades of feminism. Matricentric feminism positions mothers' needs and concerns as the starting point for a theory and political on and for women's empowerment.

In matricentric feminism the term “mothers” refers to individuals who engage in motherwork or, as Sara Ruddick theorized, maternal practice. Such a term is not limited to biological mothers but to all people who do the work of mothering as a central part of their life.

Mothers are now raising their voices and sharing their stories; they are drawing attention to the gaps and inequalities they observe and experience in society, in representation, in expectation, in feminism, and in motherhood; they are connecting, resisting, demonstrating, demanding, and defying.

This collection aims to explore and investigate how mothers have developed, and are currently developing, a theory and praxis of matricentric feminism and provide insight into the impact and influences of matricentric feminist theory, activism and practices on families and children, culture, art/literature, social media, public policy, workplaces practices, and so forth.

In this collection, we invite contributors to share how they see a ‘wave of matricentric feminism’ being realized and enacted in theory, activism, and practice in micro and macro ways, and to consider the future impact of matricentric feminism.

We invite and encourage a diverse range of submissions, including but not limited to personal essay/reflection, academic/scholarly essay, memoir, creative non-fiction, diary style, letter form, Q and A, poetry, art, photography, and hybrid genre.

Please send 250 word abstract and 75 word bio by November 1, 2022 to aoreilly@yorku.ca; f.green@uwinnipeg.ca; vjbailey@gmail.com.

Please submit abstract/bio in word with both saved as motherwaveabstractYOUR SURNAME and similar with bio), and please put in your subject heading Mother Wave Abstract Surname e.g. Mother Wave Abstract Bailey